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70-09833-63-KH



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CHANNELS ONLY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

10 SEP 1963

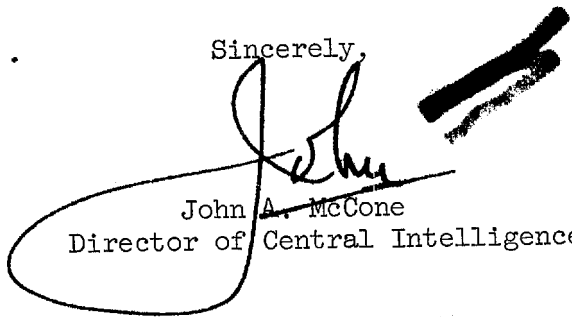
Dear Bob:

The attachment to this letter is the interim report you were promised in my letter of 8 April 1963. The report represents the tentative conclusions of the CIA/DIA Panel which General Carroll and I set up to re-examine and reassess the evidence on the Soviet ground force. It covers two of your key questions, the number of major line elements and the available military manpower. As indicated in the statement of scope in the report, all but one of your other questions will be covered in a later report; the question of the comparability of US and Soviet divisions will ultimately require a net evaluation which, at the minimum, will involve your military operation staffs.

I wish to assure you that although the conclusions in this interim report are tentative, pending the over-all findings of the final report, they are based on a thorough and objective reassessment of all evidence bearing on the problem. The Panel assigns a high degree of confidence to its quantitative findings, despite the fact that these quantitative findings have had to be stated in terms of rather broad ranges because of the nature of the evidence.

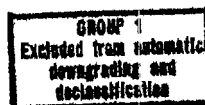
Sincerely,

Attachment
a/s


John A. McCone
Director of Central Intelligence

Honorable Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

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